

Message Text

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70

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CPR-01

SSC-01 /055 W

----- 012573

R 021625Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8084

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV, DM

SUBJ: BENIN CABINET RESHUFFLE

1. ON JAN 30 A RESHUFFLE OF BENIN'S CABINET WAS ANNOUNCED
IN THE NAME OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRB PARTY. NEW
CABINET CONSISTS OF:

A. HIGH AUTHORITY IN CHARGE OF NATIONAL DEFENSE, LT COL
MATHIEU KEREKOU, CHIEF OF STATE, CHIEF OF THE MILITARY
REVOLUTIONARY GOVT (NO CHANGE)

B. MIN OF INDUSTRY AND HANDICRAFT, LT COL BARTHELEMY OHOUENS
(NEW POST)

C. MIN OF EQUIPMENT, LT COL RICHARD RODRIQUES, (NEW POST,
NEW CABINET MEMBER)

D. MIN OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION, MAJOR MICHEL
ALLADAYE (NO CHANGE).

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E. MIN OF FINANCE, INDENDANT 3RD CLASS, ISIORE AMOUSSOU
(NO CHANGE)

F. MIN DELEGATE TO THE PRESIDENT IN CHARGE OF THE PLAN,
STATISTICS AND COORDINATION OF FOREIGN AID, JAOR FRANCOIS
DOSSOU (NEW CABINET MEMBER)

G. MIN OF JUSTICE, LEGISLATION AND SOCIAL AFFIAR, CAPT DJIBRIL
MORIBA (SOCIAL AFFAIRS SWITCHED FROM MIN OF HEALTH, CHANGE
IN PORTFOLIO)

H. MIN OF TECHNICAL AND HIGHER EDUCATION, CAPT AUGUSTIN
HONVOH (NEW POST, CHANGE IN PORTFOLIO).

I. MIN OF FIRST DEGREE EDUCATION, CAPT VINCENT GUEZODJE
(SPLIT MINISTRY).

J. MIN OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM, CAPT ANDRE ATCHADE. (INDUSTRY
SPLIT OFF, NO OTHER CHANGE)

K. MIN OF TRANSPORT, CAPT LEOPOLD AHOUEYA (PUBLIC WORKS, POST
AND TELECOMMUNICATION NOW UNDER MIN OF EQUIPMENT).

I. MIN OF HEALTH, CAPT ISSIFOU BOURAIMA (SOCIAL AFFAIRS,
SPLIT OFF)

M. MIN OF CIVIL SERVICE AND LABOR, CAPT ADOLPHE BIAOU (CHANGE
OF PORTFOLIO).

N. MIN OF YOUTH, POPULAR CULTURE AND SPORT, CAPT FRANCOIS
KOUYAMI (NO CHANGE)

O. MIN DELEGATE TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC IN CHARGE
OF INTERIOR AND NATIONAL ORIENTATION, LT MARTIN DOHOU
AZONHIHO (COMBINING OF FORMER MINISTRIES OF INTERIOR AND
SECURITY, AND INFORMATION AND NATIONAL ORIENTATION)

P. MIN OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATIVE ACTION, LT
PHILIPPE AKPO (NEW MEMBER OF CABINET).

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2. COMMENT: A FEW MINOR PORTFOLIOS HAVE BEEN EXCHANGED AND THE
CABINET EXPANDED BY THE ADDITION OF THREE MILITARY OFFICERS
CONSIDERED LOYAL TO KEREKOU. FOUR NEW MINISTRIES HAVE BEEN
SET UP WHICH SHOULD FURTHER INFLATE THE ALREADY OVERGROWN
CIVIL SERVICE. AZONHIHO IS CONFIRMED IN HIS INTERIOR POST WHICH
IS NOW COMBINED WITH NATIONAL ORIENTATION. BENIN'S POLICIES
WILL IN NO WAY BE AFFECTED BY THESE CHANGES. THEY DO SERVE
TO CONSOLIDATE THE REGIME AND CONFIRM THE EXCLUSION OF RADICAL

MARXIST CIVILIANS WHO HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN HOPING TO BREAK INTO
THE CABINET.

MORE EXTENSIVE COMMENT FOLLOWS TOMORROW.
ENGLE

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04 MAY 2006

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TAGS: PGOV, DM, (KEREKOU, MATHIEU)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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